

SECRET

4-9027

27 OCT 1959

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFCEH

25X1A

SUBJECT: Responsibility for Project [REDACTED]

TO: Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 "E" Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.

1. One of the major USAF intelligence requirements, as expressed by the Air Staff in its Development Planning Objectives for Intelligence and Reconnaissance, is for a capability to conduct medium and high altitude (up to 200,000 feet) photographic reconnaissance on a discreet basis. This calls for design and procurement of both a follow-on aircraft and new photographic equipment.

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2. For some time, ATIC under my direction has been sponsoring a Technical Objectives Aerial Reconnaissance Plan, known as Project [REDACTED] designed to supply the photographic capability needed to meet this requirement. Full details of [REDACTED] are discussed and coordinated on a current basis with your specialist in TSS, so there is no duplication or overlap of effort between our agencies in this area and it will be usable in any follow-on aircraft sponsored by you or USAF. The project involves highly specialized technology and a substantial amount of funding.

3. While the Air Force has stated a requirement for the follow-on vehicle, this has not been converted into an approved procurement item. I am of the opinion that this reconnaissance capability is needed and that both vehicle and equipment should be carried through to completion. This can be done by either the Air Force or by CIA, with transfer to you of the work done by the Air Force. If you agree that this capability should exist for U.S. intelligence, an expression of your wishes is desired, either as a statement of your intention to proceed plus request for transfer of the work done by the Air Force or as a requirement that the Air Force proceed with development of a completed capability.

25X1A

[REDACTED]
MAJOR GENERAL, USAF
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF,
INTELLIGENCE

SECRET

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

25X1A

TO : Mr. [REDACTED] Chief, TSS

DATE: 1 February 1960

25X1A

FROM : [REDACTED] DDP/ASST

SUBJECT: Project [REDACTED]

25X1A

25X1A 1. Per our telephone conversation, here are all the papers I have on
25X1A Project [REDACTED] You may recall that [REDACTED] said he sent this memo,
which was prepared by some of his subordinates, in order to avoid blowing certain
25X1A contemplated developments in the Agency. [REDACTED] later stated to Leo Geary that
he did not need a reply to the letter. It has, in fact, never been replied to, to my
knowledge.

25X1A 2. The only remaining question raised by Mr. Bissell is the substantive
one of whether the development described by Project [REDACTED] is itself worthy
of our attention. I would appreciate your thoughts (and perhaps those of PIC) on
this subject at your convenience.

25X1A

UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	DD/P - Mr. Bissell		OCT 28 1959
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Dick:

25X1A General Cabell asked that the attached
25X1A copy of a letter from General [REDACTED] Subject:
Responsibility for Project [REDACTED] dated
27 October 1959, be sent to you for necessary
action. I have retained the ribbon copy to show
the Director and will advise him of the action
taken.

JSE

25X1A

FILES ONLY

new copy
755, 120, 100, 7

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
EO/DCI, [REDACTED] p x-8823	28 Oct 59

UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

CLASSIFICATION

TOP SECRET

THIS DOCUMENT REQUIRES SPECIAL HANDLING

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REFERRED TO	RECEIVED			RELEASED		SEEN BY	
OFFICE	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME	DATE	TIME	NAME AND OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE
DD/P	<i>Rwh</i>						
<i>CFSS</i>							

CLASSIFICATION

TOP SECRET

CHAL 0779
Copy 2

30 October 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

25X1A

SUBJECT: Project [REDACTED]

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1. According to information received by Cdr. [REDACTED], ATIC, 29 October 1959, Project [REDACTED] deals with a tactical day reconnaissance system. It consists of three cameras:

a. A tracker camera, 70 millimeter format similar to CHAL except that it has been engineered down in space to approximately 18" x 18" x 30" high. It carries two reels side by side and has a capability of 2,000' of film.

b. The second camera in the system is a chart and target camera, trimet type installation built into one camera called the Zeiss-15/23 9 x 9 format using plicogon lense. This is similar to CHAL A-1 configuration except it is incorporated in one camera body.

c. Number three camera is similar to type B and C in CHAL. This camera evidently has some very advanced engineering. It is being built by the Bulova Watch Company. It produces 50 lines per millimeter with a variable focal length from 72" through 200" plus. This change in focal length can be programmed by the pilot in flight. It has a F-5 aperture and records on six different rolls of film. Just how this is accomplished I am not sure by the explanation, but it is understood that it can either expose one piece of film similar to CHAL B or C or can expose three exposures simultaneously on different formats. This means that they can use films of different sensitivity and get a wide-band spectral cut of the same target at one exposure station. This camera has a 40° field of view on either side of the nadir point and the principal point can be programmed by the pilot at will to several degrees of obliquity from the nadir, 10° - 20° - 40° or 80°.

2. I understand that IT&T are building the instrumentation data ^{recording} part of which comes from the camera and part of which comes from the A-5 Inertial Nav System and is recorded on the film. Aeroflex Corporation is doing the mounts for the camera. As a part of the system development, 2B-57 aircraft are currently being used to flight test the system as components are developed and these will probably become the operational vehicles.

CHAL-0779

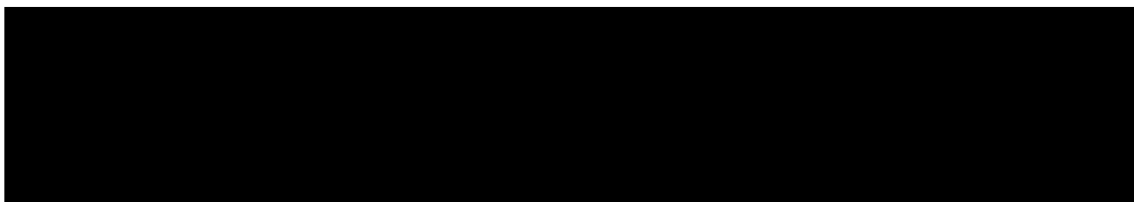
Copy 2

30 October 1959

25X1A

SUBJECT: Project [REDACTED]

25X1A



ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL
Director,
Photographic Intelligence Center

Distribution:

- Cy 1 - DD/P
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